

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace paragraphs starting at page 22, lines 14-37, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

Numerous programmes are available for the design of the siRNAs of the invention:

- “siSearch Program” at:
http://sonnhammer.cgb.ki.se/siSearch/siSearch_1.6.html
(Improved and automated prediction of effective siRNA,” Chaml AM, Wahlesdelt C and Sonnhammer ELL, Biochemical and Biophysical research Communications, 2004).
- “SiDirect” at:
<http://design.rnai.jp/sidirect/index.php> (Direct: highly effective, target-specific siRNA design software for mammalian RNA interference, Yuki Naito et al., Nucleic Acids Res, Vol. 32, N° Web Server Issue © Oxford University Press, 2004).
- “siRNA Target Finder” by Ambion at the address
http://www.ambion.com/techlib/misc/siRNA_tools.html
- “siRNA design tool” by Whitehead Institute of Biomedical research at the MIT at the address <http://jura.wi.mit.edu/pubint/http://iona.wi.mit.edu/siRNAext/>

Other programmes are listed at:

<http://web.mit.edu/mmcmamus/www/home1.2files/siRNAs.htm> in particular:

http://athena.bioc.uvic.ca/cgi-bin/emboss.pl?_action=input&_app=sima